

**MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW
LINCOLN AIRPORT BOARD ROOM
FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2001
AFTERNOON SESSION**

Commissioners Present: Kathy Campbell, Chair
Bob Workman, Vice Chair
Larry Hudkins
Linda Steinman

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Director

AGENDA ITEM

1 MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW

Information Services - Agency 607

Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Director, referred to documentation entitled *Mid-Year Budget Review Current Year and 1-2 Year Anticipated Changes Summary of Late Agency Requests* (Exhibit A) and explained that the County expends approximately \$143 per month, per village, for circuit charges in connection with rural InterLinc sites. He indicated he visited with Information Services and suggested that the County pay half of the charge, with the villages paying the remaining half and eventually phasing out funding completely. Kroeker noted that Doug Thomas, Manager with Information Services, indicated that the sites for Waverly and Raymond will be removed and possibly the sites for Panama and Malcolm.

Board consensus to stop payment of monthly charges in connection with rural InterLinc sites. The computers will be donated to the villages.

General Fund Miscellaneous - Agency 612

Kroeker stated that the Personnel Department is recommending that a Benefits Assistant be hired to work on County benefits issues as explained in a memorandum from Bill Kostner, City Risk Manager (Page 612A-1 of Exhibit A).

Board consensus not to proceed with a Benefits Assistant position.

County Court - Agency 622

Kroeker explained County Court expects a budget shortfall of approximately \$19,000, mostly due to outside legal fees.

General Assistance - Agency 801

Kroeker noted a possible shortfall at the end of the year due to pharmacy costs.

**f. Department Budget Hearing Schedule for Fiscal Year
2001-2002**

Board consensus to change the departmental budget hearings to be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2001 to Thursday, May 31, 2001, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

**3 STRATEGIC PLANNING
a. 10th & South Street Juvenile Detention Building**

Campbell asked when the old building would be vacated.

Kroeker responded he had talked with Judy Foote, Administrative Aide with the Attention Center for Youth, who had indicated they would take possession of the new building some time in October, 2001. Training would take place at the new Juvenile Detention facility for approximately two months with an actual move in date in January, 2002.

Campbell stated that from the Public Building Commission's perspective they would like to see what happens with the Old Federal Building before making any decisions about the 10th & South Street Juvenile Detention Building.

Hudkins inquired about a letter from Building and Safety which indicated Lancaster Manor could not have a tool shed in the basement. He suggested that the Board speak with Larry Van Hunnik, Administrator at Lancaster Manor, regarding his storage needs.

Campbell stated she would rather retain ownership of the 10th & South Street Juvenile Detention Building and use it for County programs. Her second choice would be to lease the building to someone in the community. She added that it would give the Board a six month time frame to see if any of Kit Boesch's, Human Services Administrator, suggestions pertaining to the adult jail come to fruition.

Board consensus for the County to retain ownership of the 10th & South Street Juvenile Detention Building and utilize it for County programs, with the second choice being to lease the building to someone in the community. A firm decision will not be made on the 10th and South Street Juvenile Detention Building until a decision is made on the old Federal building.

In response to a question asked by Hudkins regarding Cornhusker Place, Kroeker stated a one million dollar master plan is currently being put together for renovation of Cornhusker Place.

b. County Board Office Space and Staff

Workman questioned whether there would be a need to retain a lobbyist after the Chief Administrative Officer's assistant is hired.

Steinman indicated she feels it is important to have a lobbyist separate from Eagan's assistant.

Workman also suggested increased utilization of the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO).

Hudkins indicated he would support the idea of Lancaster County having their own separate lobbyist.

Eagan noted that Sarpy County utilizes their Deputy County Clerk to conduct their lobbying, however, the County Board doesn't maintain control over who is the Deputy Clerk and that could present a problem.

Campbell suggested more discussion of the issue at a later date.

Hudkins stated no decision was made on the relocation of Human Services, however, Don Killeen, Building Administrator, and Kit Boesch, Human Services Administrator, spoke to the Board about the merits of keeping the office closer to the Hall of Justice and Law Enforcement Center.

Hudkins also stated 400 square feet of area has been identified in the Finance Department which is currently serving as a storage area. He reported that Jim Hille, Hille and Associates, continues to review reconfiguration and is aware of the 400 square feet.

In response to a question asked by Campbell regarding the relocation of the Election Commission office, Kroeker stated they would be moving after the election.

Discussion ensued regarding the location of the Chief Administrative Officer's assistant, with Workman indicating that the Board could set up an office in their outer hallway.

Hudkins added that an office could also be set up in their conference room.

Campbell requested that Don Killeen be scheduled on their March 15th staff meeting agenda for discussion regarding office space.

Eagan stated if Human Services relocates across the hall from the County Board, a new location will need to be found for the Personal Property Division in the County Assessor's office.

Campbell suggested utilizing the two small conference rooms located in Room 103.

She also reminded the Board that part of the problem is the split Personnel Department.

Hudkins stated one alternative to Personnel's problem would be to relocate in the Election Commission building.

Campbell stated she and Hudkins would convey the Board's thoughts to the Public Building Commission regarding a short term solution for office space.

c. Other Priorities

The Board reviewed a list of goals for 1999 and 2000 and long-range strategic planning (Exhibit A), noting the following changes for 2001:

1. Continue to hold work sessions on rural land use issues
2. Continue to work with the City of Lincoln and Lower Platte South Natural Resource District to develop a policy for the acquisition of park land to control flood plains and to establish criteria for ownership and transfer of such lands.
3. Revise the following: *“Work with the City on review of joint functions and other issues related to restructuring of government”* to read *“Interlocal cooperation to increase government efficiency”*
 - a. Review interlocal agreements and existing financial aspects
4. Management Team Review
 - a. Revise Management Team meeting
 - b. Add professional review of Directors
 - c. Provide training sessions
5. Continue development of a long-term telecommunications strategy
 - a. Complete right-of-way ordinance
 - b. Continue to research and plan for a long-term strategy for telecommunications for Lancaster County
6. Continue to develop plan for fixed assets and infrastructure
7. Develop strategy on records management
8. Develop a communications strategy for the County Board
9. Complete a review of Personnel classifications for compliance under the Fair Labor Standards Act
10. Geographic Information System (GIS) map of County property
11. Review relationships and expenditures with villages
 - a. Survey of County services
 - b. Joint planning issues

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Bruce Medcalf
County Clerk

